

What does the Bible say about ? [Find Out](#)

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100 Bible Verses about

Church Leadership

[Acts 20:28](#) ESV / 449 helpful votes

Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood.

[Hebrews 13:17](#) ESV / 408 helpful votes

Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

[1 Timothy 3:1-7](#) ESV / 340 helpful votes

The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church? ...

[Galatians 6:9](#) ESV / 286 helpful votes

And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.

[Matthew 20:26](#) ESV / 252 helpful votes

It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant,

[1 Peter 5:2](#) ESV / 223 helpful votes

Shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly;

[1 Peter 5:3](#) ESV / 218 helpful votes

Not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock.

[Hebrews 13:7](#) ESV / 214 helpful votes

Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.

[1 Timothy 5:17](#) ESV / 209 helpful votes

Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching.

[Ephesians 4:11-16](#) ESV / 196 helpful votes

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ...

[Acts 14:23](#) ESV / 195 helpful votes

And when they had appointed elders for them in every church, with prayer and fasting they committed them to the Lord in whom they had believed.

[Psalms 78:72](#) ESV / 187 helpful votes

With upright heart he shepherded them and guided them with his skillful hand.

[1 Timothy 3:2](#) ESV / 181 helpful votes

Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach,

[Titus 1:7](#) ESV / 179 helpful votes

For an overseer, as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain,

[Philippians 2:3](#) ESV / 164 helpful votes

Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.

[Proverbs 4:23](#) ESV / 161 helpful votes

Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.

[Philippians 4:13](#) ESV / 159 helpful votes

I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

[1 Timothy 3:8-13](#) ESV / 157 helpful votes

Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain. They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless. Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things. Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well. ...

[Proverbs 29:2](#) ESV / 154 helpful votes

When the righteous increase, the people rejoice, but when the wicked rule, the people groan.

[Exodus 18:21](#) ESV / 148 helpful votes

Moreover, look for able men from all the people, men who fear God, who are trustworthy and hate a bribe, and place such men over the people as chiefs of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties, and of tens.

[John 3:30](#) ESV / 140 helpful votes

He must increase, but I must decrease."

[Luke 6:31](#) ESV / 139 helpful votes

And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

[James 3:1](#) ESV / 138 helpful votes

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.

[2 Timothy 2:2](#) ESV / 130 helpful votes

And what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

[Colossians 3:17](#) ESV / 126 helpful votes

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

[Acts 6:1-15](#) ESV / 126 helpful votes

Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. ...

[Titus 1:5](#) ESV / 124 helpful votes

This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you—

[2 Timothy 2:15](#) ESV / 122 helpful votes

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.

[1 Timothy 3:5](#) ESV / 121 helpful votes

For if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church?

[1 Peter 5:7](#) ESV / 120 helpful votes

Casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

[1 Thessalonians 5:12-13](#) ESV / 120 helpful votes

We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves.

[Matthew 5:37](#) ESV / 117 helpful votes

Let what you say be simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything more than this comes from evil.

[1 Timothy 4:12](#) ESV / 114 helpful votes

Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.

[Ephesians 4:11](#) ESV / 114 helpful votes

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers,

[1 Timothy 3:1](#) ESV / 112 helpful votes

The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task.

[**Matthew 16:18**](#) ESV / 108 helpful votes

And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

[**1 Peter 5:1-4**](#) ESV / 106 helpful votes

So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

[**Philippians 2:4**](#) ESV / 105 helpful votes

Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

[**Proverbs 16:12**](#) ESV / 105 helpful votes

It is an abomination to kings to do evil, for the throne is established by righteousness.

[**Matthew 28:18-20**](#) ESV / 104 helpful votes

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

[**Acts 20:17**](#) ESV / 99 helpful votes

Now from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him.

[**Luke 12:48**](#) ESV / 98 helpful votes

But the one who did not know, and did what deserved a beating, will receive a light beating. Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required, and from him to whom they entrusted much, they will demand the more.

[**Philippians 1:1**](#) ESV / 97 helpful votes

Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers and deacons:

[**Proverbs 31:8-9**](#) ESV / 96 helpful votes

Open your mouth for the mute, for the rights of all who are destitute. Open your mouth, judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy.

[**2 Timothy 1:7**](#) ESV / 89 helpful votes

For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

[Matthew 7:12](#) ESV / 87 helpful votes

"So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

[Isaiah 41:10](#) ESV / 87 helpful votes

Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

[Matthew 20:25-27](#) ESV / 85 helpful votes

But Jesus called them to him and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave,

[Titus 1:5-9](#) ESV / 84 helpful votes

This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you— if anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination. For an overseer, as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.

[Ephesians 5:23](#) ESV / 80 helpful votes

For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior.

[Acts 15:22](#) ESV / 77 helpful votes

Then it seemed good to the apostles and the elders, with the whole church, to choose men from among them and send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. They sent Judas called Barsabbas, and Silas, leading men among the brothers,

[Proverbs 11:14](#) ESV / 77 helpful votes

Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.

[Titus 1:6](#) ESV / 76 helpful votes

If anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination.

[1 Timothy 4:2](#) ESV / 76 helpful votes

Through the insincerity of liars whose consciences are seared,

[Proverbs 29:14](#) ESV / 75 helpful votes

If a king faithfully judges the poor, his throne will be established forever.

[Ephesians 5:25](#) ESV / 74 helpful votes

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her,

[Matthew 24:45-47](#) ESV / 74 helpful votes

"Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom his master has set over his household, to give them their food at the proper time? Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will set him over all his possessions.

[Titus 1:6-7](#) ESV / 73 helpful votes

If anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination. For an overseer, as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain,

[1 Timothy 6:12](#) ESV / 72 helpful votes

Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

[1 Timothy 3:1-2](#) ESV / 72 helpful votes

The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach,

[Philippians 2:13](#) ESV / 72 helpful votes

For it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

[Romans 12:3-8](#) ESV / 72 helpful votes

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ...

[**Revelation 1:1**](#) ESV / 71 helpful votes

The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John,

[**Ezekiel 34:1-31**](#) ESV / 70 helpful votes

The word of the LORD came to me: "Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel; prophesy, and say to them, even to the shepherds, Thus says the Lord God: Ah, shepherds of Israel who have been feeding yourselves! Should not shepherds feed the sheep? You eat the fat, you clothe yourselves with the wool, you slaughter the fat ones, but you do not feed the sheep. The weak you have not strengthened, the sick you have not healed, the injured you have not bound up, the strayed you have not brought back, the lost you have not sought, and with force and harshness you have ruled them. So they were scattered, because there was no shepherd, and they became food for all the wild beasts. ...

[**Isaiah 16:5**](#) ESV / 70 helpful votes

Then a throne will be established in steadfast love, and on it will sit in faithfulness in the tent of David one who judges and seeks justice and is swift to do righteousness."

[**1 Chronicles 16:11**](#) ESV / 70 helpful votes

Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually!

[**Luke 22:26**](#) ESV / 69 helpful votes

But not so with you. Rather, let the greatest among you become as the youngest, and the leader as one who serves.

[**1 Peter 5:5**](#) ESV / 68 helpful votes

Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

[**1 Timothy 5:19**](#) ESV / 65 helpful votes

Do not admit a charge against an elder except on the evidence of two or three witnesses.

[**2 Timothy 3:16**](#) ESV / 63 helpful votes

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,

[**James 5:14**](#) ESV / 62 helpful votes

Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.

[**Philippians 1:6**](#) ESV / 60 helpful votes

And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

[**Proverbs 24:10**](#) ESV / 60 helpful votes

If you faint in the day of adversity, your strength is small.

[**1 Timothy 2:11-12**](#) ESV / 59 helpful votes

Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness. I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet.

[**Acts 17:11**](#) ESV / 58 helpful votes

Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so.

[**Titus 1:1-16**](#) ESV / 57 helpful votes

Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the sake of the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth, which accords with godliness, in hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began and at the proper time manifested in his word through the preaching with which I have been entrusted by the command of God our Savior; To Titus, my true child in a common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior. This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you— ...

[**1 Timothy 3:15**](#) ESV / 57 helpful votes

If I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth.

[**1 Thessalonians 5:14**](#) ESV / 57 helpful votes

And we urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all.

[**2 Timothy 2:3-4**](#) ESV / 52 helpful votes

Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him.

[**2 Timothy 3:16-17**](#) ESV / 51 helpful votes

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

[1 Timothy 4:16](#) ESV / 51 helpful votes

Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers.

[Acts 6:1-6](#) ESV / 51 helpful votes

Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. ...

[James 4:17](#) ESV / 50 helpful votes

So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

[1 Timothy 3:12](#) ESV / 50 helpful votes

Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well.

[1 Timothy 3:1-16](#) ESV / 50 helpful votes

The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church? ...

[1 Thessalonians 5:12](#) ESV / 50 helpful votes

We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you,

[Ephesians 4:15](#) ESV / 49 helpful votes

Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,

[Acts 20:31](#) ESV / 49 helpful votes

Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish everyone with tears.

[1 Peter 2:25](#) ESV / 48 helpful votes

For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

[**Galatians 6:1-2**](#) ESV / 47 helpful votes

Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

[**Romans 8:28**](#) ESV / 45 helpful votes

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

[**1 Timothy 3:3**](#) ESV / 44 helpful votes

Not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money.

[**1 Timothy 3:1-13**](#) ESV / 44 helpful votes

The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church? ...

[**Philippians 4:19**](#) ESV / 44 helpful votes

And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

[**Titus 1:9**](#) ESV / 43 helpful votes

He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.

[**Hebrews 13:24**](#) ESV / 39 helpful votes

Greet all your leaders and all the saints. Those who come from Italy send you greetings.

[**1 Peter 5:1**](#) ESV / 38 helpful votes

So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed:

[**Acts 15:4**](#) ESV / 37 helpful votes

When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and the elders, and they declared all that God had done with them.

[**Colossians 1:18**](#) ESV / 35 helpful votes

And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.

[Acts 6:3](#) ESV / 34 helpful votes

Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty.

Suggest a Verse

Enter a Verse Reference (e.g., John 3:16-17)

Preview

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